

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7237

Petition of Five Ratepayers requesting a change)
in service territory from Vermont Electric)
Cooperative, Inc., to Town of Stowe Electric)
Department)

Order entered: 9/24/2009

STATUS CONFERENCE MEMORANDUM

On September 21, 2009, I conducted a status conference in this proceeding. In attendance were: Eric Denardo, pro se; John Randall Pratt, representing Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc. ("VEC"); Edward French, Esq., representing the Town of Stowe Electric Department ("Stowe"); and James Porter, Esq., representing the Vermont Department of Public Service ("DPS").

At the status conference, I granted a motion for substitution of counsel that was filed by VEC on September 18, 2009.

At the status conference, Mr. Denardo stated that the five petitioners continue to seek a change in service territory from VEC to Stowe. However, he noted that considerable time had passed since the petitioners conducted the survey of their neighbors that was attached to the petition. As a result, Mr. Denardo stated that he was no longer certain whether the non-petitioning individuals would support a change in service territory. He recommended that those individuals be contacted prior to the implementation of any change.

Attendees at the status conference discussed the reliability of service being delivered to the petitioners in 2008 and 2009. In addition, VEC summarized the actions it has taken since 2007 to improve the reliability of the petitioners' service.

Stowe reported at the status conference that the new Stowe-Duxbury transmission line is scheduled to be complete by November 1, 2009.¹

1. Stowe had previously indicated in this proceeding that it would not be able to serve the VEC customers who are requesting the service territory change until after the Stowe-Duxbury line was completed.

At the status conference the parties agreed that they would like to try to resolve the issues in this proceeding in a cooperative manner. VEC and Stowe stated that they would like time to conduct further discussions regarding the requested change in their service territories.

After discussion with all parties, I determined that VEC and Stowe should file a status report (or status reports if they cannot agree upon the content of a single report) on their discussions on or before November 30, 2009. VEC and Stowe agreed that, if they do not reach agreement regarding the requested change in service territories, the status report will describe the reasons for their disagreement, to the extent that it can do so without compromising the parties' negotiations. VEC and Stowe may also propose next steps for this proceeding in the status report.

If VEC's and Stowe's status report includes recommendations for next steps for this proceeding, all parties will be provided the opportunity to comment on the proposed next steps. If not, I will schedule a status conference to establish the next steps.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 24th day of September, 2009.

s/Ann Bishop
Ann Bishop
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: September 24, 2009

ATTEST: s/Susan M. Hudson
Clerk of the Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)